

Subject: Our work to reform the Small Lot Ordinance
From: Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>
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To: lisa@mediadistrict.org



Friend --

Since taking office I have been working with residents, architects, our planning department, and my colleagues to revise the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance. This week we reached a milestone to accomplish this goal.

The Ordinance, originally adopted in 2004, was intended to make homeownership more available to Angelenos. The Ordinance has proven to be widely utilized with mixed results in our neighborhoods. We need to address the scale of the structures the Ordinance allows and discourage invoking a state law that can result in displacing residents living in rent stabilized housing. My office has been diligently working on this issue and we are close to adopting guidelines to bring about the needed changes.

The revised Ordinance will also encourage the use of existing structures and preservation of valuable architecture like classic California Bungalow Courts. This approach will result in projects that are designed to be more sensitive to existing residential communities, and create incentives that actually encourage the preservation and enhancement of older homes that contribute to the unique character of our neighborhoods make communities more livable.

I want to thank the Planning and Land Use Management Chair, Councilmember Jose Huizar, and the Committee for approving my initiative to reform the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance, creating a set of enforceable Standards. The item will go to the City Attorney for review, and then back to Committee and the full City Council for a vote. You can read the draft ordinance [here](#).

I'll be sure to share any updates with you as they become available.

Warm regards,

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

COMING UP

WED 2/1 [MAYOR'S CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN AND BUDGET](#)

SAT 2/4 [GLASSELL PARK COMMUNITY DAY](#)

FRI 2/24 [REGIONAL BUDGET ADVOCATES DAY - GLASSELL PARK](#)

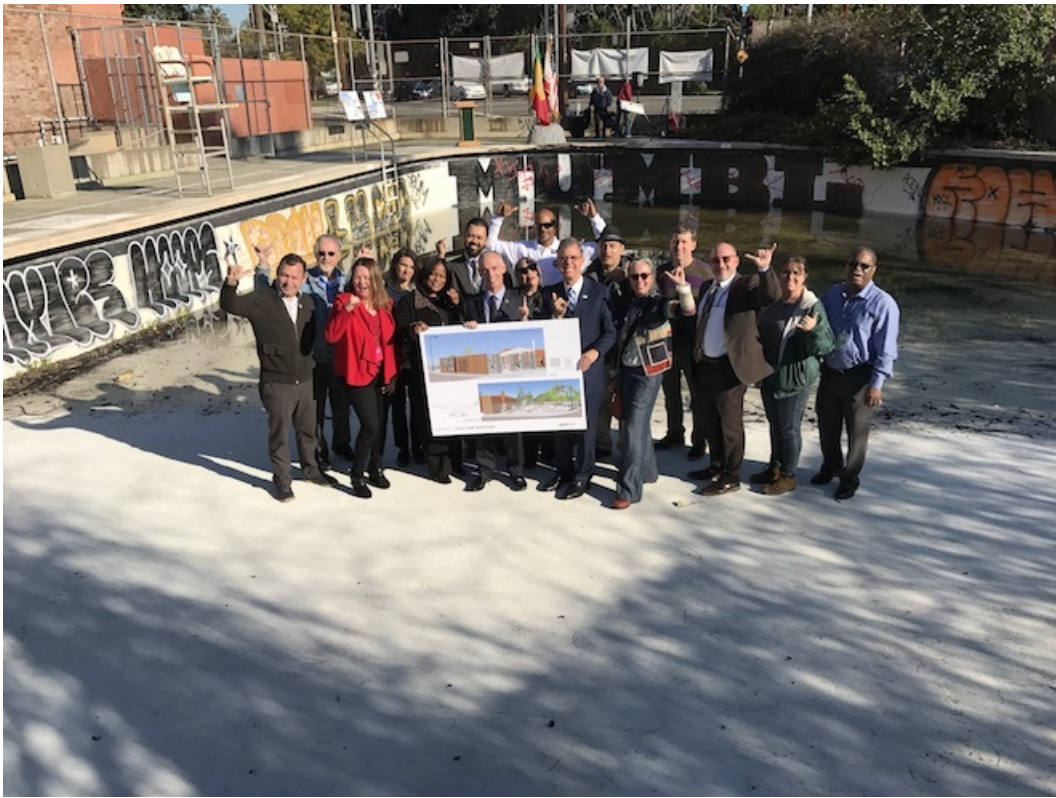
HEADLINES

LA to acquire property known as 'crown jewel' of River [[LA TIMES](#)]

Friends of Hollywood Central Park Hold Annual Gala [[LA INDEPENDENT](#)]

Councilman helps honor outstanding live theater [[BEVERLY PRESS](#)]

O'FARRELL, ECHO PARK COMMUNITY ANNOUNCE FUNDING TO BUILD SKATE PARK



ECHO PARK -- Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell recently announced that funding has been identified to start work on a new \$1.1 million dollar skate park at the Echo Park Recreation Center. Set against the backdrop of an abandoned, empty, and graffitied pool next to the 101 Freeway, the Councilmember made the announcement during a news conference, and was joined by the skate park design team and community members who participated in the process.

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COUNCIL APPROVES PURCHASE OF TAYLOR YARD PARCEL "G-2" ALONG LA RIVER



CITY HALL - In a unanimous decision, the Los Angeles City Council took action that allows the City to close escrow on the parcel of land at Taylor Yard/G-2, an essential piece of property for restoration efforts along the Los Angeles River. Specifically, the City Council voted to move forward to allocate nearly \$60 million to acquire this 42-acre parcel of land currently owned by Union Pacific Railroads. The former freight switching facility is located near the Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academy and Rio de Los Angeles State Park. The property has long been sought for acquisition but until recently did not have a willing seller.

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TEAM MITCH MAKING A DIFFERENCE - BLAKE AVENUE AND RICH STREET



ELYSIAN VALLEY - The CD13 Clean Team was dispatched to an area across the street from the Elysian Valley Community Garden. The crew removed weeds, litter and fallen tree branches, which makes a difference in the look and feel of the street. See an area that needs attention? Contact Sylvan De La Cruz in our Echo Park District Office at 213-207-3015.

[SEE MORE BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS](#)

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES VOTE FOR LA 2024 SUMMER GAMES



CITY HALL - Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell and his colleagues held a news conference following the vote to approve the City's bid for the 2024 Summer Olympic Games. "The Summer Games is an opportunity to shine brightly before an international audience, and as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Summer Olympics, I will continue working to ensure that Los Angeles is in a better position financially after the event," said Councilmember O'Farrell. "I am confident that my colleagues and I crafted the best deal possible, and I look forward to seeing the Olympic torch arrive once again in the City of Angels."

O'FARRELL, LACBC CONTINUE PARTNERSHIP TO DISTRIBUTE FREE BIKE LIGHTS



EAST HOLLYWOOD - Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell sponsored a free bike light distribution event at the corner of Hollywood Boulevard and Western Avenue. 'Operation Firefly' is an education and bike light distribution program of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition intended to make sure people riding bikes in Los Angeles are riding safely at night. When riding at night in California, a white front light and reflectors are required by law ([CVC21201](#)).

[FOLLOW THE COUNCILMEMBER ON TWITTER](#)

LA SANITATION: IS THE DROUGHT OVER?

LOS ANGELES - Angelenos have seen a lot of the wet stuff in the last few weeks! It's been a long time since we've been able to say this, but Los Angeles is currently above average in the amount of rainfall it has received this winter. Add to that images of raging waterfalls in Yosemite, and tens of feet of snow falling in the Sierra Nevadas, and everyone's excitedly asking, "Is California's drought over?" Unfortunately, the recent storms don't necessarily mean that California's drought is gone completely.

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PARTICIPATE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUDGET ADVOCATES SURVEY

CITY HALL - The Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates announced the launch of its fourth in a series of surveys to assess needs of residents across the City. This recent edition covers the topic of homeless in our neighborhoods, and the impact the issue is having in our communities. Please take the survey, share it, and urge your friends and stakeholders to do the same.

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK



LOS ANGELES - Councilmember O'Farrell posted this photo and message following news this week of President Trump fulfilling a campaign promise on immigration. "Los Angeles is a city of inclusion, compassion, and tolerance. We will stand strong for these values and against tyranny where ever it comes from."

[FOLLOW THE COUNCILMEMBER ON INSTAGRAM FOR DAILY UPDATES](#)

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